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INFORMATION BULLETIN

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Library Opens Pilot Reading Room For Digital-Format Materials

Suzanne Thorin, acting chief, General Reading Rooms Division, (right) cuts ribbon held by Marybeth Peters, Copyright Office, to open new reading room.

The Library of Congress began a one-year pilot program on July 1, to test the research use of machine-readable materials—microcomputer programs and information on compact disk (CD-ROM) or diskette—in a new reading room.

The Machine-Readable Collections Reading Room, established as a result of recommendations by three Library committees which recognized the need to provide service of machine-readable materials, will offer access to two different types of materials. The first is information exclusively available or significantly more useful in electronic format. Examples include *Dissertation Abstracts International, Oxford English Dictionary,* and *Books in Print,* which are being published on compact disk for library use. The second type

(Cont. on p. 282)

Also in This Issue . . .

William J. Welsh honored by SLA.... 283

Music bibliography.... 283

Lippincott Award to Henriette D. Avram. 283

S.E. Asian collections..283

Materials from Cuba...284

Masaryk and America...285

Albanian reading.....285

Surplus and duplicates for exchange.....285

Science Tracer Bullet....285

"American Treasury"..285

Staff News.....286

Reading Room *(Cont. from p. 281)*
of material is software programs, both current and archival. During the past five years, numerous software titles have been acquired by the Library and have been housed in various Library collections. These titles have now been brought together in the Machine-Readable Collections Reading Room, along with current titles purchased to complement the existing collections.

Many public, college, and university libraries have software collections and microcomputer laboratories for the use of software or to promote computer-skills education, these facilities being analogous to typing rooms or audiovisual laboratories. The Library of Congress' Machine-Readable Collections Reading Room is not a place to use software or data files for personal projects, such as letter writing or tax preparation, but rather a place to study the design, history, and documentation of software and information data files. Patrons researching the history of software development or industry trends will use the archival collection of software; writers who need to review or compare current and new software programs may benefit from the availability of the current collections.

The Librarian meeting with computer makers and software publishers in May.

Open from 12 noon to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, the Machine-Readable Collections Reading Room (MRC RR) is part of the General Reading Rooms Division and is located on the first floor of the Jefferson Building near the Microform Reading Room (Room LJ 140G). The new reading room has available IBM-compatible and Apple microcomputers. Software for other equipment will be collected, but will not be machine-accessible during the pilot program. Two goals of the pilot are to help define equipment needs and to reveal the uses that researchers make of the facility.

Until recently, machine-readable materials have been exempt from copyright deposit requirements, a major source of Library of Congress acquisitions. The Library recently announced its intent to remove this exemption, and on May 24, Librarian of Congress James H. Billington met with representatives of the microcomputer and compact disk publishing industry to discuss the proposed change of copyright regulations, to apprise them of the Library's plans for providing service of machine-readable materials in the new reading room, and to enlist their support in the project.

Some software publishers have indicated their willingness to donate copies of their current titles to keep the Library's collection up-to-date and to provide archival collections to help in the development of a retrospective collection. Industry representatives have also offered hardware and technical assistance in establishing procedures and safeguards for the facility. As expected, publishers were interested in the Library's plans for preventing violation of the copyright of machine-readable materials. After the meeting, the industry representatives expressed considerable interest in continuing communications and maintaining a cooperative relationship during the course of the pilot.

The *Library of Congress Information Bulletin* is issued weekly by the Information Office of the Library of Congress and distributed free of charge to publicly supported libraries and research institutions, academic libraries, learned societies, and allied organizations in the United States.

Comparable institutions and organizations in other countries may arrange to receive the *Bulletin* on an exchange basis by applying in writing to the Library's Exchange and Gift Division. All other correspondence should be addressed to the LC *Information Bulletin*, Information Office, Library of Congress, Washington, DC 20540.

Bruce Tapper, Editor

William J. Welsh Is Honored by SLA

Honorary membership in the Special Libraries Association (SLA) was conferred upon William J. Welsh, The Deputy Librarian of Congress, on June 15.

The official award, honoring Mr. Welsh for his contributions to the association and the profession, was made during the Special Library Association's 79th annual conference in Denver, Colo.

While in Denver Mr. Welsh also attended a quarterly meeting of the U.S. National Commission on Libraries and Information Science. The commission hosted a reception honoring Mr. Welsh and Dan Casey, councilor emeritus of the New York Library Association, on June 13.

Library Publishes Music Bibliography

The latest annual cumulation of *Music, Books on Music and Sound Recordings*, 1986, is available from the Library of Congress Cataloging Distribution Service. This publication is a continuing and cumulative bibliography of works currently cataloged by the Library and several North American libraries, which were selected by the Music Library Association as having a broad spectrum of representative music collections.

Compiled and edited by the Catalog Management and Publication Division of the Library of Congress, *Music, Books on Music and Sound Recordings* constitutes an acquisition, reference, and research tool for music and musicology, and sound recordings of every type. The catalog includes entries that relate to music in the broadest sense, including music scores, sheet music, libretti, and books about music, musicians, and sound recordings.

The publication may be purchased for $110 from the Library of Congress, Customer Services Section, Cataloging Distribution Service, Washington, DC 20541. For information, call (202) 287-6100.

Henriette D. Avram Receives Lippincott Award

Henriette D. Avram

Henriette D. Avram, assistant librarian for processing services, has been given the Joseph W. Lippincott Award for Distinguished Service in Librarianship.

The prestigious award, to be presented at the Annual Conference of the American Library Association (ALA) in New Orleans this month, cites Mrs. Avram's "significant lifetime contributions to librarianship" and carries a $1,000 cash award.

Among Mrs. Avram's many achievements has been her work on the design and implementation of the automation systems for the Library's technical processing operations, leading to the development and international acceptance of the MARC format as the standard for machine-readable bibliographic data. Mrs. Avram has been an important contributor to the work of the American Library Association, the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA), the American National Standards Institute, the International Organization for Standardization, and Unesco's General Information Program.

Among the many awards for her achievements have been IFLA's highest award—election as Honorary Fellow—ALA's Melvil Dewey Medal for outstanding creative professional achievement, ALA's Margaret Mann Citation in Cataloging and Classification, LITA Award for Achievement in Library and Information Technology, the Association of College and Research Libraries' Academic/Research Librarian of the Year Award, and the Federal Women's Award.

Group Considers the Development of Research Collections on S.E. Asia

The following is a report from a meeting of the Subcommittee on Collection Development of the Committee on Research Materials on Southeast Asia (CORMOSEA), which convened in San Francisco on March 24.

Charles Bryant, Yale University, discussed his trip to the Philippines and Indonesia. While in Jakarta he spent several days in the Library of Congress field office reviewing the office's receipts of sub-provincial publications and types of publications that are possibly peripheral to research needs. The cost of these items is approximately one dollar per piece, and their increased influx is straining participants' accounts.

Ray Boylan, Center for Research Libraries, suggested that the Jakarta office circularize anew science and technology serial titles. These are evidently undercollected in the United States. Kent Mulliner, Ohio University, outlined his university's project to key records of Southeast Asian publications on microfiche into

(Cont. on p. 284)

S.E. Asia *(Cont. from p. 283)*
OCLC. A recent Title II-C grant will allow Ohio University to create OCLC records up to 1987 when the Library of Congress New Delhi office began to include Jakarta microfiche records in its diskettes which are uploaded to the Library's Automated Processing Information File (APIF). Ohio University's entry of earlier microfiche records means that the entire microfiche set will be under automated database control.

Juliane Schober, Arizona State University, described her institution's plans to develop a Southeast Asia undergraduate program, and Susan Go, Michigan State University, gave an update on the Vietnamese union list of locations in the United States.

Chris Filstrup, chief, Overseas Operations Division of the Library of Congress, reviewed the Jakarta office's use of INMAGIC to create an acquisitions database. He asked whether Southeast Asian bibliographers would be interested in the distribution of this database on diskette. The subcommittee will prepare a formal request for this distribution.

Mr. Filstrup went over acquisitions from the four countries now covered by the Jakarta office plus recent efforts to improve exchange receipts from the Philippines.

John Badgely, Cornell University, led a discussion on acquisitions from Burma. Based on his three-month sojourn in that country, Mr. Badgely described the emergence of a small private sector in publishing and book distribution which needs to be tapped, as well as the established public-sector publishers. This would improve the scope of publications available through the Library of Congress microfiche program.

Personnel from the New Delhi field office will visit Thailand in the near future to investigate the possibility of establishing a cooperative acquisitions program there.

—Chris Filstrup

Librarians Discuss Cuban Materials

A one-day miniconference on Cuban research material was held at New York Public Library (NYPL) on February 8. The agenda encompassed collection development, acquisitions, cataloging, reference services, and preservation.

The meeting, organized by Peter T. Johnson of Princeton University Library and hosted by NYPL, had as its main purposes to give libraries with strong Cuban interests a forum for exchanging information on their programs and resources, exploring ways of improving collections, establishing acquisitions and processing priorities, and working out cooperative strategies for sharing responsibilities and resources to serve the community better. The participants shared several informational lists and resumes such as checklists of Cuban serials currently being received (Harvard University, the Hoover Institution, the Library of Congress, the New York Public Library, the University of Pittsburgh, Princeton University, Yale University), names and addresses of productive exchange sources (Library of Congress, New York Public Library, Pittsburgh, and Princeton), descriptions of ongoing microfilming programs (Hoover, Library of Congress, Princeton), and brief descriptions of Cuban resources and services (Library of Congress, New York Public Library).

The discussants identified the following needs among problems calling for action and attention: speeding up the cataloging both of arrearages and newly received titles; sharing cataloging data more effectively; making greater efforts to identify and obtain important out-of-trade materials such as provincial dailies, limited-distribution government documents, and political party publications; exploring consortium-type arrangements for organizing, funding, and carrying out acquisitions in the field; agreeing on priorities and allocating responsibility for collecting, microfilming, and making available to other libraries the most important Cuban periodicals and document series, both current and retrospective; and developing efficient means for channeling cooperative operations and disseminating information on Cuban materials.

Peter Johnson undertook to draw up an action program and a timetable based on the group's discussions and suggestions. Immediate tasks to be addressed are compiling a comprehensive checklist of all serials of whatever nature that are coming out of Cuba, and a reference list of Cuban serials that have previously been converted to microform or other preservation format, with indication of period available and source of copies.

It was agreed that there be a follow-up meeting of the group at the 1988 annual conference of the Seminars on the Acquisition of Latin American Library Materials (SALALM) in June, with a view to establishing a special-interest group on Cuban acquisitions analogous to the present SALALM subcommittee on Cuban bibliography. It was further proposed that reports on the New York conference be prepared for submission to the LC *Information Bulletin* and the quarterly *SALALM Newsletter*, and that the latter publication be used as the main forum for publicizing the group's programs and encouraging others to participate.

—Peter de la Garza
and Donald F. Wisdom

Library Publishes *Masaryk and America*

The Library of Congress has just published a new contribution to the study of the life and work of Tomas Masaryk, the first president of Czechoslovakia.

Prepared by George J. Kovtun,

area specialist for Czechoslovakia and Eastern Europe, *Masaryk and America: Testimony of a Relationship* is an 82-page publication. In it Masaryk's relationship with America is illustrated by his writings and speeches, by magazine articles, newspaper editorials and interviews, letters written by Masaryk or addressed to him, and by personal notes and reminiscences.

The text is accompanied by nine reproductions of documents and photographs.

The book is available from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402 (cite stock number 030-000-00194-0 when ordering).

The price is $2.50.

Arshi Pipa Records Albanian Literature For the Library

The European Division played host to Arshi Pipa, professor, Department of French and Italian, University of Minnesota, who recorded for the Library's Archive of World Literature on Tape on April 20.

Professor Pipa—a specialist in Albanian literature, author, literary historian, and literary critic—read from classics of Albanian literature, adding commentary.

This is the first reading in Albanian in the Library's Archive.

Surplus and Duplicates For Exchange

The Library of Congress has available on an annual contractual exchange basis the following categories of surplus and duplicate materials: bound volumes of periodicals; unbound volumes of periodicals; bound newspaper volumes; Cyrillic-script publications, bound and unbound; Chinese-, Japanese-, and Korean-language monographs and serials; telephone books and city directories; and selected law materials.

The material requested in exchange for the above lots of material is preservation microfilm to be identified and duplicated by the Library.

Inquiries must be received by August 19, 1988; the deadline for submission of contract offers is September 16, 1988.

For information, write to the following address, identifying the specific category of exchange materials in which you are interested: Project EX – Contract Offers, Exchange and Gift Division, Library of Congress, Washington, DC 20540. Full specifications concerning the contractual arrangements will be supplied. Please include your telephone number.

Bibliography on Czech and Slovak Works in English

Czech and Slovak Literature in English: A Bibliography, second edition, has just been published (Washington: Library of Congress, 1988. 152 p. Call number: Z2138.L5K68 1988).

Compiled by George J. Kovtun, Czechoslovak specialist in the European Division of the Library of Congress, this enlarged and updated version of the first edition (1984) lists translations from Czech and Slovak published in monographic form.

The bibliography includes belles lettres and folklore; works of literary criticism and literary history are listed in a separate section.

The book is available from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402; stock number 030-001-00122-9; price $6.50.

Science Tracer Bullet On Algae Is Published

LC Science Tracer Bullet: Algae. ISSN 0090-5232. (TB 88-1). January 1988. Compiled by Diana Niskern, this literature guide updates TB 72-14 and provides basic reference material in the collections of the Library of Congress on these important photosynthesizing organisms.

Copies may be obtained free on request from the Science Reference Section, Science and Technology Division, Library of Congress, Washington, DC 20540. Copies have also been provided to the Superintendent of Documents for distribution to depository libraries.

AMERICAN TREASURY

PRODUCED BY ©CBS NEWS IN ASSOCIATION WITH THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

This week's question, drawn from the CBS News "American Treasury" series, broadcast each weekday at 3:57 p.m. (EST) on the CBS Television Network, is:

What industry was responsible for setting standard time zones across the United States?

The answer to last week's question is:

The first privately owned satellite was launched into space by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration in 1961. It was named OSCAR and sent back a one-word message in Morse Code: "Hi."

STAFF NEWS

Book Paging Enhanced With FETCH Command

The FETCH command, linking the automated Book Paging System with the Library's bibliographic databases, has gone into production. This link, use of which is currently limited to Library of Congress staff only, enables a staff member to request the retrieval of an item from the Library's collections directly from a MUMS or SCORPIO full bibliographic display on authorized terminals.

The staff of the Collections Control Center, Collections Management Division, is responsible for authorizing terminals for use with FETCH. Those terminals previously authorized for book paging will automatically be authorized for FETCH.

The FETCH command will operate only with certain MUMS and SCORPIO files. In MUMS, these are: BOOKSM, Serials, and PREM; in SCORPIO: LCCC and PREM. Not everything in these files can be obtained with FETCH, however. For example, it will not be possible to use FETCH for CIPs or materials located in special collections (such as those of the Rare Book and Special Collections, Geography and Map, or Music divisions); nor will it be possible to use FETCH with non-roman-alphabet book or serial materials, or not-yet-fully cataloged materials. Should a staff member attempt to use FETCH for an item that cannot be used with FETCH, the system will display a message from the terminal explaining why the item cannot be obtained with FETCH and will direct the staff member either to the reading room where the item is housed or where further assistance is available.

In general, FETCH simplifies the requesting process. While it will be possible for Library staff to continue to use Book Paging once FETCH becomes available, there are advantages to using FETCH. For example, FETCH eliminates the need to sign on to Book Paging to request materials once the desired items have been identified in either MUMS or SCORPIO. Furthermore, because FETCH draws bibliographic data directly from MUMS or SCORPIO when it formats requests, keying errors, resulting in unclear requests, are also eliminated. In addition, the fact that the bibliographic data are pulled directly from MUMS or SCORPIO will improve the handling of the request in the stacks as the deck attendant will now have access to all of the important bibliographic elements. Finally, unlike Book Paging, FETCH will not accept a request from the MUMS serials file unless the requester has asked for a specific volume or date. Again, this feature will reduce time-consuming delays caused by the need for the deck attendant to query the requester for additional information when a serial without a volume designation is requested through Book Paging.

As with Book Paging, the staff of the Collections Control Center will continue to monitor the effective operation of the FETCH command. If Library staff members have not received a response to their requests within a reasonable amount of time (generally 45 minutes), they should contact the center to report the problem. Similarly, if either the terminal or the printer is not working properly, or if an error message regarding the use of FETCH comes on the screen, the center should be contacted.

Staff training and copies of the users manual for the FETCH command will be provided by staff of the Collections Control Center. Over the next several weeks, the center's staff will be contacting automation liaisons and key operators throughout the Library to schedule staff training. Until such arrangements can be made, however, online assistance for FETCH is available through SCORPIO HELP. To access, key HELP FETCH on any SCORPIO file.

All questions concerning use of FETCH, terminal authorization, and scheduling of staff for training should be referred to the Collections Control Center. The center can be reached all the hours the Library is open to the public by calling ext. 71920.

LCPA Offers Grants For Continuing Education

Anna Ho, a library technician in the Exchange and Gift Division, started taking courses two years ago at the University of Maryland, and in August she will graduate with a master's degree in library science. Ho has had to balance a full-time job with her library courses and her family, but she believes it has been worthwhile finally to have a professional title in a field she has grown to enjoy.

Ho found financial support through the Library of Congress Professional Association's Continuing Education Fund. She found that being awarded the CEF grant gave her confidence in her ability to apply for others. She tried and subsequently received a Library of Congress affirmative action grant which is allowing her to finish school. "It's not the money that counts," she said. "It gave me confidence."

The LCPA is once again seeking applicants who want to try a traditional or unusual approach in continuing education. The applications, now available, must be returned to the LCPA by July 15. Awards will

STAFF NEWS

be announced August 1. More than one grant may be awarded, depending upon the applicants and amounts requested, so everyone seeking educational support is encouraged to apply.

Grants are available to any LCPA member currently employed at the Library, for courses in library science or related fields including seminars and workshops. Further, there has been a change in the procedure, and applicants need not apply first to the Library of Congress for support before applying to the CEF.

The Continuing Education Fund was established in 1983 to encourage LCPA members to continue their professional development. This spring, for the first time, the LCPA membership drive included an optional contribution to the CEF. The generous response contributed more than $900 to the CEF's capital endowment, which translates into increased fund money available for LCPA members.

For more information and to obtain an application, contact the CEF trustees: Mary Ann Ferrarese, Photoduplication Service, ext. 75650; Lloyd Lewis, Cataloging Distribution Service, ext. 71678; Peter Vankevich (treasurer, ex-officio), Copyright Examining Division, ext. 78202; Michael Kolakowski, Government Division, Congressional Research Service, ext. 78231.

Special Interest Groups In the Month of July

The Library of Congress Professional Association (LCPA) invites all interested people to attend the following Special Interest Groups (SIGs) in July.

These informal information forums last 30 minutes from 12:10 to 12:40 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays throughout the month unless otherwise noted. Brown bag lunches are welcome.

July 5—SIG on Performing Arts: David Parker, assistant head, Curatorial Section, Motion Picture, Broadcasting and Recorded Sound Division, outlines "Dance in Film." Room LM 139.

July 12—SIG on African Area Studies: Therese Smith, executive director, Western Sahara Campaign for Human Rights and Humanitarian Aid, reveals "The Western Sahara: Exquisite Desolation" (with slides). West Dining Room, 11:30 a.m.

July 19—SIG on Ethnic Resources: Tom Blumer, senior editor, European Law Division, discusses "Documenting the Native American Experience." Room LM 139.

July 21—SIG on American Studies: Pam Spitzmueller, rare book conservator, Conservation Office, inventories "Thomas Jefferson's Books: The 18th Century Library Preserved" (with slides). Room LM 139.

July 26—SIG on Library Science: Bill Poole, senior copyright acquisitions librarian, Deposits and Acquisitions Division, examines "Copyright Acquisitions of Serials." Room LM 139.

July 27 (Wednesday)—SIG on Management: "Communications: The Nonverbal Agenda," a film to be shown in Room LM 654.

Staff Activities

Margrit B. Krewson, German/Dutch area specialist, European Division, presented a paper at the Carl Schurz Society in Bremen, West Germany, on June 3. The talk, given in German, was titled "German Treasures in the Library of Congress," and included details about the chronological development of the German-language holdings of the Library as well as facts about the Library's mission, structure, and services. The Carl Schurz Society in Bremen, established in 1935, supports German-American cultural and political understanding.

Rubens Medina, chief of the Hispanic Law Division, recently delivered a lecture and led a discussion on Spanish colonial law at Johns Hopkins University. **Constance Johnson** of the Far Eastern Law Divison was part of a Congressional Research Service delegation, sponsored by the Institute of International Relations of the National Chengchi University of Taiwan, that went to Taiwan for briefings and seminars on economic, political, and security issues confronting that country. **Edith Palmer** of the European Law Division and **Kersi Shroff** of the American-British Law Division participated in a meeting of the North Carolina Board on State Goals and Policy, where they delivered lectures on European and British tort law, respectively. **Miklos Radvanyi** of the European Law Division participated in the 11th U.S.-Hungarian Economic Roundtable in Bloomington, Ind. At a recent interdepartmental seminar with CRS, **Tao-tai Hsia** spoke about the legal system of the People's Republic of China.

Staff Carpool Locator

Established carpool seeks rider-driver. From Manchester St. in Arlington, Va., along Rt. 50 and Columbia Pike. Currently on compflex schedule. Call Nancy Hall on ext. 75315.

Established carpool, leaving around 7 a.m. from Daventry on Old Keen Mill Road in Springfield, Va., seeks rider-driver from neighboring area. Members are on flexitime work schedule. Please contact Grace Shao on 78875.

Meetings and Events Around the Library

Tuesday, July 12

☐ "The Western Sahara: Exquisite Desolation" (illustrated), Therese Smith, executive director, Western Sahara Campaign for Human Rights and Humanitarian Aid. Madison Building, West Dining Room, 11:30 a.m.

Tuesday, July 19

☐ "The Credit Bureau: How it Works, the Service It Provides, How to Read a Credit Report, and How to Correct a Report," speaker from the CBI credit bureau. Series sponsored by the Welfare and Recreation Association, the Women's Program Office, and the LC Federal Credit Union. Mumford Room, 11:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

☐ "Documenting the Native American Experience," Thomas Blumer, European Law Division. LC Professional Association (LCPA). Room LM 139, 12:10 p.m.

Thursday, July 21

☐ Blues Concert with John Cephas, guitar, and Phil Wiggins, Harmonica. American Folklife Center Outdoor Concert Series. Neptune Plaza, 12 noon.

☐ "Thomas Jefferson's Books: The 18th-Century Library Preserved" (with slides), Pam Spitzmueller, Conservation Office. LCPA. Room LM 139, 12:10 p.m.

Events are open to the public unless otherwise noted.

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